

**From:** McFadden, Angela  
**To:** Kinslow, Sara  
**Sent:** 8/2/2013 12:53:19 PM  
**Subject:** headlines

**From:** Smith, Bonnie  
**Sent:** Friday, August 02, 2013 10:06 AM  
**To:** R3 EVERYONE  
**Subject:** EPA Mid-Atlantic Regional Headlines, FRIDAY, August 2, 2013

EPA Region III  
Office of Public Affairs  
Mid-Atlantic Headlines  
Friday, August 2, 2013  
\*\*\* DAILY HOT LIST \*\*\*

**EPAs Gina McCarthy open to conversation, WV delegation says**  
**CHARLESTON DAILY MAIL**

A delegation of West Virginia lawmakers, officials and coal industry executives expressed cautious optimism Thursday after meeting at the White House with new U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy. The group of mostly Democrat politicians said the roughly hour-long meeting was a good sign the EPA is willing to listen to concerns about policies and regulations they believe threaten the coal industry. "They might have thought we were going to come and have a dog and pony show, and that wasn't it at all," said Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va. "We came with specifics." Democrats and Republicans are quick to blast the EPA and President Barack Obama's administration for policies perceived to be detrimental to the coal industry. After Obama announced in June a plan to cut carbon emissions, pursue clean technology and encourage other countries to close coal-fired power plants, West Virginia politicians from both parties were quick to label the policy a "war on coal." Last week, state Democratic Party Chairman Larry Puccio announced a trip to Washington to make sure the EPA and administration were receiving the message. An EPA representative agreed it was a productive meeting. "It is always helpful to hear views of the West Virginia delegation as we work together to find the best solutions to protect public health and reduce carbon pollution while promoting job growth." Manchin, Rep. Nick Rahall, D-W.Va., Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin and several other state-level Democrats laid out their objections. Manchin, Rahall and others participated in a conference call with media after the morning meeting. "The purpose wasn't for them to educate us and tell us why their positions are justified," said Speaker of the House Tim Miley, D-Harrison. "The purpose was for them to do more listening than talking, and that was what happened." Manchin gave McCarthy six different pieces of legislation regarding energy policy and said he appreciated the high-level meeting. Rahall spoke about permitting action where he feels the EPA has overstepped its bounds, and complimented McCarthy on hearing the group's concerns. Tomblin, who was not originally slated to go on the trip, said in a news release he told McCarthy hundreds of West Virginians are out of work because of "overzealous, ideological, and financially devastating policies" from the administration. While several members of the West Virginia delegation spoke, there was no formal response from McCarthy or members of the administratio

**All set for her swim across the Delaware Bay**  
**PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER**

Shortly after dawn Saturday, Meghan Wren will smear herself with Vaseline and lanolin, wade into the Delaware Bay at Port Mahon, Del., and start swimming. Eight to 10 hours and 13 miles later - having bucked the currents and crossed the shipping channel and endured numerous jellyfish stings, notwithstanding the protective goo - she'll reach New Jersey, coming ashore at Fortescue, Cumberland County. If the weather holds. And if she's lucky. "I don't know how many people think about the bay as a swimmable place," Wren said. "It's infinitely swimmable." When it's over, Wren hopes to have raised \$25,000 for bay projects, including the Bayshore Center at Bivalve, a museum and education institution she heads. But the bigger goal, she says, is to put Delaware Bay on the map. "We spend a lot of time talking about Delaware Bay as a place for fish and wildlife. A lot of people think of it as a place for ships and industry," said Jennifer Adkins, executive director of the nonprofit Partnership for the Delaware Estuary. "What she's trying to highlight is that the bay is a place for people." Attempts to boost the bay's cachet include a spring 2012 visit from then-Interior Secretary Ken Salazar, who praised it as "a landscape of national significance." Nice plug, but no money. An analysis of federal funding for 2012 shows that the Great Lakes got \$300 million. Chesapeake Bay got about \$60 million. Delaware Bay ranked eighth, with just \$700,000. Wren called her attempt to cross the bay "almost inevitable." She loves open-water swimming. She lives on the bay - at Cumberland County's Money Island - and her work is all about the bay. Now 48, she began to think about whether she had accomplished enough. Plus, "I mentioned it to my dad, and he said, 'If you're going to do it, I'd like to see it, so do it soon.' " Her primary logistics expert is her husband, Jesse Briggs, who is well acquainted with the whims of the bay and its weather. He's captain of the A.J. Meerwald, a 1928 oyster schooner that her center owns. It is New Jersey's official tall ship.

DEP hands MarkWest 4 violations for flare incident

PITTSBURGH BUSINESSTIMES

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City of Philadelphia launches Building Energy Benchmarking Program for large commercial buildings

MONTGOMERY CO NEWS

The City of Philadelphia sent compliance notices regarding the Building Energy Benchmarking Law. It requires owners/operators of buildings with more than 50,000 square feet of indoor floor space (or mixed-use buildings where at least 50,000 square feet of indoor space is devoted to commercial use) to disclose annual energy usage and water consumption, which will be made available online. The City has launched a new website, which describes the energy benchmarking law and associated regulations in full, including detailed reporting requirements. The compliance deadline for reporting building energy and water consumption will be Oct. 31. "In order to make Philadelphia the greenest city in America and improve the city's energy efficiency and cost savings, we need to make a concerted effort across the city to reduce energy use in buildings," said Mayor Michael A. Nutter. "By requiring the measurement and recording of energy use in buildings, people will begin to think more critically about energy efficiency. I am proud that we are the sixth American city to enact this legislation, and I hope that many of Philadelphia's building owners will explore how to improve their energy performance." In order to establish data that will help drive energy efficiency improvements, the Building Energy Benchmarking Law was passed as a key step in Nutter's Greenworks Plan. Designed to reduce citywide building energy use by ten percent in 2015, benchmarking and disclosure of building energy data will drive building energy improvements, promote transparency in the commercial real estate market, and produce potential savings for building owners and tenants. Sponsored by Councilwoman Blondell Reynolds Brown and Councilman Jim Kenney, Bill No. 124028 passed unanimously on June 21, 2012 and was signed into law by Nutter in August 2012. Regulations were issued in July 2013. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), energy use in commercial buildings accounts for 17 percent of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions, at a cost of more than \$100 billion per year.

In response to Texas explosion, Obama orders federal agencies to review chemical plant rules

WASHINGTON POST

(AP -8/1/13)WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama on Thursday ordered federal agencies to review safety rules at chemical facilities in response to the deadly April explosion at a Texas fertilizer plant. In an executive order, Obama tasked agencies with identifying new ways to safely store and secure ammonium nitrate, the explosive chemical investigators say caused the blast. Agencies are also being told to determine whether additional chemicals should be covered by federal regulatory programs. The massive explosion at the plant in the community of West, Texas, killed 15 people, leveled hundreds of structures and damaged three of the town's four schools. It also prompted new scrutiny of regulations at chemical plants and the risks posed by deadly chemicals to people living in surrounding areas. While the explosion is still being investigated, preliminary findings have been presented to Congress. A report sent to the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee in June showed that the decades-old standards used to regulate fertilizer chemicals are far weaker than those used in other countries. The report concluded that the safety of ammonium nitrate fertilizer storage "falls under a patchwork of U.S. regulatory standards and guidance — a patchwork that has many large holes." The Environmental Protection Agency, for example, does not regulate the chemical. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration requires that ammonium nitrate be stored separately from other combustibles in a room that has a partition that can withstand fire for up to an hour. But the agency had not inspected the West plant since 1985.

PENNSYLVANIA

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PLAN PHILLY(BLOG)

Developer: Asbestos, city permitting process delay Kingsley Court project

An old environmental hazard and a current environment of caution have delayed the razing and redevelopment of one of Roxborough's most infamous properties. Another 800 feet of asbestos material has been found at the former Ivy Ridge

nursing-home site, stopping the demolition for the second time in two months. But it is the pace of the city permitting process — particularly since the June 5 collapse of the buildings at 22nd and Market streets, where six people were killed — that has really slowed the work at 5627 Ridge Ave., according to the developer. "It's insane. I'm not very happy," said Stephen Goldner, noting that he understands the need for the multi-layered approval process. "One of the big problems is, I'm not unique. There are dozens of builders and developers in the same situation. Since the calamity on Market Street, no one wants to make a mistake."

**PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE**

Environmental director departs Heinz Endowments

The Heinz Endowments' longtime director of environmental programs is leaving her post Aug. 8, part of an apparent shake-up at Pittsburgh's second-largest philanthropy and grant-maker.Caren Glotfelty is one of the state's top environmental advocates, and her sudden departure caught many in the conservation community off-guard. In a statement emailed to the Post-Gazette, Ms. Glotfelty, 66, said: "The board has indicated that it is moving in a different direction with regard to the Environment Program, and it is clear to me that this is the right moment to leave. I have been privileged to be part of the Heinz Endowments and very proud of all the grantees and partners who have worked so hard during my tenure to make the Pittsburgh region a better place." In an email announcement being circulated to colleagues and grant recipients, she wrote that "changes are taking place at the Heinz Endowments, and one of the results is that I will no longer be employed there. ... I apologize for the abruptness of the news, but I only learned about it late last week. ... While the news will naturally create feelings of uncertainty for the future of your individual and collaborative efforts, [Heinz Endowment employees] have your best interests at heart." She learned of her departure in mid-July, according to the email, just days after Teresa Heinz Kerry, wife of U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry and chairwoman of the endowments, was hospitalized in Massachusetts.

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**PITTSBURGH TRIBUNE REVIEW**

DEP cites MarkWest over emissions

State regulators accused a Washington County gas plant of environmental violations and gave the operator 15 days to explain how it will stop emitting black smoke. MarkWest Energy Partners LP failed to use good operating practices at its Houston processing plant and didn't notify the Department of Environmental Protection five days in advance that it would start up new equipment there, an agency spokesman said Wednesday. The DEP will decide whether to fine MarkWest after it reviews the company's action plan, spokesman John Poister said. The department received complaints and pictures showing "thick plumes of black smoke" coming from the plant on July 14 and 15, he said. Inspectors found the plant was not operating its new equipment, a de-ethanizer, in accordance with its approved plan, Poister said. "Public safety was never at risk and the safety equipment worked as designed," company spokesman Robert McHale said.

**STATE IMPACT PENNSYLVANIA**

Ford Will Offer F-150 That Runs On Natural Gas

The second-largest auto manufacturer in the U.S. has announced plans to offer a version of its F-150 pickup truck that runs on compressed natural gas (CNG). From Bloomberg:Ford is seeking to further bolster its F-Series pickups, which have been the top-selling trucks in the U.S. for the past 36 years. Natural gas prices have fallen as U.S. production surged with horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing, or fracking. Ford said the average U.S. price for CNG is equal to \$2.11 a gallon, compared to \$3.66 for regular gasoline.The F-150 is "probably our No. 1 request out there right now, with people asking us" for a CNG system, Koswick said yesterday in a briefing near Ford's headquarters in Dearborn, Michigan. The F-150 will be the eighth commercial vehicle that Ford will sell that can run on CNG. (end Bloomberg)As part of Pennsylvania's Act 13 law regulating gas drilling, \$20 million in grants are available over the next three years to encourage the use of alternative fuels, including CNG.

**DAILY GANT (Blog)**

DOE Releases Preliminary Findings for Study on Groundwater Contamination from Hydraulic Fracturing

Last week the Department of Energy (DOE) released preliminary findings on groundwater contamination from hydraulic fracturing studies. In 2012 the National Technology Lab (NETL), a branch of the DOE, began a monitoring study of groundwater. The limited statement released by NETL stated, "NETL has been conducting a study to monitor for any signs of groundwater contamination as a result of hydraulic fracturing operations at a site on the Marcellus Shale formation in Pennsylvania. "We are still in the early stages of collecting, analyzing, and validating data from this site. While nothing of concern has been found thus far, the results are far too preliminary to make any firm claims. We expect a final report on the results by the end of the calendar year." In one well located in Greene County, tracer drilling fluids were injected more than 8,000 feet below the surface at the gas well bore. No detection of the markers was found in a monitoring zone at a depth of 5,000 feet. The researchers also tracked the maximum extent of the man-made fractures, and all were at least 6,000 feet below the surface. These were about one mile away from surface drinking water supplies, which are usually at depths of less than 500 feet. A separate series of older gas wells about 3,000 feet above the Marcellus were monitored to see if the fracking fluid reached up to them, and eight Marcellus wells were monitored seismically as well. In one well, seismic monitoring indicated one hydraulic fracture traveled 1,800 feet out from the well bore while most traveled just a few hundred feet. The fracture may have hit naturally occurring faults, something both industry and regulators don't want, although it was still over a mile from the surface. Preliminary results indicate that hydraulic fracturing fluids stay well below ground. Results from only one well is not conclusive, but this is the first time that industry has allowed governmental researchers to use and monitor tracers in hydraulic fracturing fluid. Preliminary research findings will be published in the next few months as studies continue.

**HERALD STANDARD**

Mining company hopes judge will order injunctive relief

(not able to link to full story)Coal mining company seeking injunctive relief in order to begin mining operations under a natural gas pipeline called the first of its witnesses in Greene County court on Wednesday

**LEHIGH VALLEY LIVE - EXPRESS TIMES**

EDITORIAL: Consider natural gas option for Portland generating plant

As the 54-year-old Portland Generating Station in Upper Mount Bethel Township prepares for a June 2014 shutdown, the question for owner NRG Energy is: What now? Does the plant go dark and await the wrecking ball? Is it a candidate for conversion to natural gas? That prospect is looking increasingly profitable to utilities at some plants, given the advent of gas extracted from Marcellus shale in Pennsylvania. The immediate future of the Portland plant has been answered. This month a federal appeals court upheld the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's order that Portland reduce sulfur dioxide output by 81 percent and mercury by 91 percent within three years or close. The EPA acted in response to a suit by New Jersey and Connecticut, which argued that the Portland plant was exporting unhealthy gases and soot to Warren County and several counties in New Jersey and beyond. While former plant owner GenOn contested the EPA findings, NRG Energy — which acquired the plant last year through a merger with GenOn — chose to settle the lawsuit with New Jersey and Connecticut, moved up the closing date and signed an agreement with the state of Pennsylvania to cease using coal. As for the possibility of switching fuels, company spokesman David Gaier said only, “We retain the option to use natural gas at the plant.”We hope that is an option NRG chooses, if the numbers work

### **MONTGOMERY NEWS**

City of Philadelphia launches Building Energy Benchmarking Program for large commercial buildings

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### **PHILADELPHIA MAGAZINE**

Legal Settlement Orders Children Never To Talk About *Marcellus Shale In Their Lives. Really. (blog)*

Two young children are forbidden from speaking about Marcellus Shale or fracking for the rest of their lives. The court action stems from a settlement in a high-profile Marcellus Shale lawsuit in western Pennsylvania. The two children were 7 and 10 years old at the time the Hallowich family settled a nuisance case against driller Range Resources in August 2011. The parents, Chris and Stephanie, had been outspoken critics of fracking, saying the family became sick from the gas drilling activity surrounding their Washington County home. (They agreed to the gag order in order to get funds, in the settlement, necessary to move.) Stephanie Hallowich told Washington County Common Pleas Court judge Paul Pozonsky that she agreed to the gag order in order to get enough funds to move out of the house. But she said she didn't fully understand the lifelong gag order on her children. We try not to be panic-stricken conspiracy theorists around here—and we doubt very seriously that, ultimately, courts will find that a parent can sign away their children's First Amendment rights. But on the other hand, its remarkable that a company would try to get parents to sign away those rights, isn't it? The whole thing is astonishing.

### **MONTCO TIMES HERALD**

Einstein Medical Center Montgomery awarded LEED-NC Silver Certification

PHILADELPHIA - Einstein Medical Center Montgomery has been awarded LEED-NC (New Construction) Silver certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. Designed by the New York office of Perkins+Will, the 360,000 square foot, 146-bed acute care facility and adjoining 75,000 square foot medical office building were built for Einstein Healthcare Network based in Philadelphia. Einstein Montgomery is the first new hospital built in southeastern Pennsylvania in more than a decade. In addition to the Einstein facility's accomplishments in sustainable design, two other major distinctions are its dedication to serving the needs of both its patients and the community as well as its celebration of the beauty of the surrounding natural landscape. These qualities were successfully achieved through a design strategy that united architectural, interior, and medical planning, set a framework for cutting-edge inpatient and outpatient service, integrated advanced medical technology, and upheld sustainable design principles. "We are delighted that our hospital earned LEED-NC Silver certification," says Beth Duffy, Chief Operating Officer for Einstein Montgomery. "Our hospital was developed with the patient and their families at the center of every initiative. Sustainable building shows that we care for the community beyond the walls of our medical center."A myriad of functional, economic and aesthetic drivers led to the unique design of the Einstein Montgomery project, which was completed on time and on budget through an accelerated approach that met the Federal Housing Administration's mandated process and schedule for financing.

### **WILLIAMSPORT SUN GAZETTE**

Water well testing play big step forward for Lycoming County

It all sounds so technical. The Lycoming County commissioners unanimously approved a \$250,000 grant application last week that, if approved, will fund a locally unprecedented project to support a countywide groundwater quality monitoring project. Translated into simple English, that means a baseline for groundwater quality data for private water supplies from wells will be tested.And that's important.Given the large number of wells in our area, the ability to track the condition and quality of water coming out of those wells always has been a matter of curiosity. And while the project doesn't specifically target the Marcellus Shale gas drilling industry, let's be honest, there is a certain amount of cynicism about the health of water supplies since the advent of the industry in the region. The ability to test for certain elements known to be used by the industry is something we hope will quell some fears. But the overall purpose of the well testing will be to establish a baseline of water quality in general. The first year will focus on 70 private water wells. The county hopes to make it a multi-year project to track water quality and quantity over time.This is very good news for the future integrity and health of the water supply in Lycoming County.

### **YORK DISPATCH**

Company demonstrates natural gas fueling station in Red Lion

(7/30/13)A Giant station in Red Lion displayed its gas price: \$3.49 a gallon. That's not bad; actually, it's likely one of the cheaper prices in York County. But across the Windsor Commons parking lot on Monday, a different kind of fueling station competed for attention, with a label reading a too-good-to-be-true \$1.55 a gallon. The station, called a Galileo Nanobox, is a self-contained fueling unit that dispenses natural gas to compatible cars. But it wasn't there to stay - State College-based company Fleet Energy America brought it to York County to demonstrate it to Shipley Group President Matt Sommer. "We are planning to convert a number of our trucks (to natural gas)," Sommer said. Plans aren't finalized, but Shipley plans to create a natural gas fueling facility in York that would service its trucks and vans and be open to the public by spring of 2014, he said. '**The ideal start**': The Nanobox unit looks like a time machine, complete with two dispensers, several valves and a touch screen. It can refill 50 to 250 natural gas-compatible vehicles per day, said Fleet Energy President Perry Babb."It really can change Pennsylvania, change America," he said. "It's a godsend. It is really going to save the United States

economy."

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## WASHINGTON, D.C.

### **WASHINGTON POST**

In response to Texas explosion, Obama orders federal agencies to review chemical plant rules (AP -8/1/13)WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama on Thursday ordered federal agencies to review safety rules at chemical facilities in response to the deadly April explosion at a Texas fertilizer plant. In an executive order, Obama tasked agencies with identifying new ways to safely store and secure ammonium nitrate, the explosive chemical investigators say caused the blast. Agencies are also being told to determine whether additional chemicals should be covered by federal regulatory programs. The massive explosion at the plant in the community of West, Texas, killed 15 people, leveled hundreds of structures and damaged three of the town's four schools. It also prompted new scrutiny of regulations at chemical plants and the risks posed by deadly chemicals to people living in surrounding areas. While the explosion is still being investigated, preliminary findings have been presented to Congress. A report sent to the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee in June showed that the decades-old standards used to regulate fertilizer chemicals are far weaker than those used in other countries. The report concluded that the safety of ammonium nitrate fertilizer storage "falls under a patchwork of U.S. regulatory standards and guidance — a patchwork that has many large holes." The Environmental Protection Agency, for example, does not regulate the chemical. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration requires that ammonium nitrate be stored separately from other combustibles in a room that has a partition that can withstand fire for up to an hour. But the agency had not inspected the West plant since 1985.

### Five things you don't know about EPA's Gina McCarthy but should

Gina McCarthy is finally heading the Environmental Protection Agency, after fielding more than 1,000 questions from U.S. senators and meeting or talking personally to 71 of them. Now that she's on the job, here are five fun facts you might not learn about McCarthy in her official bio. 1. She's a huge fan of cooking shows. McCarthy's 27-year-old daughter Maggie McCarey disclosed this during her introduction of her mother Tuesday at Harvard Law School. While she watches a huge number of shows, McCarthy is partial to celebrity chef Ina Garten. "I love the Barefoot Contessa," she said in an interview Tuesday. "I love her recipes, and I love her laugh." She's also partial to Giada de Laurentiis, who has good vegetarian recipes, and she will often watch shows as she reads documents in the evening. "I find it very comforting. I don't know why." 2. She golfs, but "not exceptionally well." Rather than playing with Washington power brokers (such as President Obama or House Speaker John Boehner), McCarthy prefers to play with her son Daniel, whom she describes as "a pretty good golfer." 3. She graduated from University of Massachusetts Boston with a degree in social anthropology, where she also focused on animal behavior and women's studies. McCarthy studied both primitive cultures and primates, which she insists has prepared her well for her current task: "The study of primitive culture was the best education I could have for working in government." 4. She doesn't eat doughnuts. When McCarthy was 13, her mother worked in a doughnut factory and took her there on occasion at 4 a.m. to help out with the work; she's never eaten the fried treats again. "It's like making sausage," she explained. She also inspected kitchens and can spot infractions in hotel and restaurant kitchens with a passing glance. 5. She considers the cleanup of Boston Harbor a major environmental achievement, but is a touch bitter about what it's done to local real estate prices. "Right now that effort has been so successful I can no longer afford to live [in] any Boston waterfront property," she quipped during her speech at Harvard Law School. "So I'm slightly resentful."

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## WEST VIRGINIA

### **CHARLESTON DAILY MAIL**

#### EPAs Gina McCarthy open to conversation, WV delegation says

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### **WALL STREET JOURNAL (blog)**

#### West Virginia Airs Coal Concerns With EPA Chief

WASHINGTON—The coal-loving West Virginia Democratic delegation hasn't always been the biggest fan club for President Barack Obama's energy policies. So on Thursday when Democratic Sen. Joe Manchin, Rep. Nick Rahall and a slew of top

West Virginia officials met with new Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy at the White House, they had to break the ice. Mr. Manchin, the only Senate Democrat to vote against Ms. McCarthy’s nomination last month, joked that the others assembled had less to fear. “There was some joking about that in the beginning, like who was going to sit next to her,” Mr. Rahall told reporters later. “Manchin said something like ‘don’t worry, she won’t hit you, she may hit me.’” In the end, West Virginia House of Delegates Speaker Tim Miley sat next to Ms. McCarthy, according to Mr. Rahall.

In brief report, Antero cites reasons for Doddridge gas explosion

West Virginia regulators on Thursday ordered Antero Resources to provide more information about what the company believes caused an explosion that killed two workers last month at a Doddridge County natural gas well. James Martin, chief of the Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Oil and Gas, issued a follow-up order that demands that Antero provide "all information" used by the company in an initial report on the blast. Martin's action followed the submission by Denver-based Antero of a two-page report that blamed the explosion on a buildup of gas from tanks used to store "flow-back" water from the process of preparing the well for natural gas production. Antero filed the report on Wednesday, the legal deadline under an order issued by DEP on July 10. "They don't have a lot of information backing up what they say in this report," said DEP spokeswoman Kathy Cosco. "This is a report that could have been submitted to us long before the deadline." Previously, Antero has said that the methane explosion early on the morning of July 7 occurred as a crew was inserting a production tube into the metal casing around the drilled hole.

**BLUEFIELD DAILY TELEGRAPH**

W.Va. officials caution EPA on war on coal

Political and industry leaders insisted Thursday the war on coal isn't “an optical illusion,” telling the Environmental Administration Agency’s new director it is, in fact, a grim reality that is idling miners and spreading fear across West Virginia's coal belt. An entourage led by Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin met for about 45 minutes with Gina McCarthy, and invited her to see for herself the adverse impact the EPA is wreaking on coal production. There was no immediate reply from her, but if she does come, state Democratic Chairman Larry Puccio pledged that the environmental community would be included in any such tour, telling reporters in a conference call, “We encourage everyone to be heard. They should have a voice like anyone should have a voice.” Tomblin pointed out that 24,000 people work directly in coal and thousands others are on payrolls of support industries, such as rail, barge and electric transmission. “I took the opportunity to tell her that West Virginians will not stop talking about our jobs and will not stop fighting for coal,” the governor said. Rep. Nick Rahall, D-W.Va., and others said McCarthy appeared genuinely interested in the concerns of the delegation, judging by the fact she took extensive notes and asked questions. “You could tell by her eyes she was really listening,” he said. House Speaker Tim Miley, D-Harrison, likewise came away encouraged by the one-on-one meeting with the EPA administrator. “I really think we’re going to have the opportunity to hit the reset button and begin a dialogue,” the speaker said. In his remarks to her, Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., said the EPA’s policies, under Lisa Jackson, “make no sense whatsoever” when coal is fueling nearly half of the nation's energy supply. “The war on coal is not an optical illusion,” the senator said. “It's real. And it's not just the war in West Virginia, or the war in this country, but it's a war around the world that this administration is waging.” Manchin and others spoke confidently that McCarthy would take them up on an invitation to tour coal sites in the state and said the group left a visible impression on her. “They might have thought we were going to come and have a dog and pony show,” he said. “And that wasn't it at all. Everybody came with specifics of what you’ve done to us.” Manchin said he reminded the EPA of how it initially approved the Spruce mining permit and then yanked it a decade later. Chris Hamilton, vice president of the West Virginia Coal Association, called the session “positive” and said he hopes it will lead to “a new line of communications” with the agency. “I’m very mindful to the extent I do have a little bit of apprehension going forward because there’s been a lot of damage done to the state of West Virginia,” he said. Ever since the EPA launched its crusade against coal, he said, some 3,500 miners and 1,000 power plant workers have been laid off. “I’m very concerned over the closure of coal-fired power plants,” Hamilton said. “They can’t be restarted immediately.

**NEWS SENTINEL**

Help, somebody stop EPA before it destroys coal!

More and more Democratic politicians whose districts rely heavily on coal are finally joining the ranks of those opposed to President Obama’s “war on coal.” In addition to West Virginia Democrats, two state lawmakers from Pennsylvania have now spoken out against the hideous regulations that have been closing coal plants across the country. Could all those opponents please speed up their efforts to block the Environmental Protection Agency before this administration kills off the industry for good at a cost of tens of thousands of jobs and billions to the economy? President Obama has made it clear that his goal is indeed the end of coal, and there are disturbing signs that the effort will make coal-fired plants too expensive to operate. The latest bad news is that parts of five Indiana counties don’t meet a new federal standard for emissions of sulfur dioxide, the “pollutant that causes acid rain and aggravates respiratory ailments,” the EPA says. Indiana regulators have 18 months to draft a plan detailing how the areas intend to come into compliance with the standard within five years. Will they be able to afford it? Say bye-bye to coal in Marion, Morgan, Daviess, Pike and Vigo counties. Don’t expect the news to get anything but worse. Indiana depends on coal for 90 percent of all electricity produced here. As the standards get ever more stringent and more plants are forced to close, what will we do? We have enough natural gas to meet – are you ready for this? – the state’s total energy needs for one day. Renewables like wind and solar contribute about 4 percent to our needs. And the new head of the EPA has chosen this moment in time to tell us just to shut up with all this nonsense about overly strict regulations hurting the economy. “Can we please stop talking about environmental regulations killing jobs, please?” Administrator Gina McCarthy pleaded this week in a Harvard Law School speech. “We need to embrace cutting-edge technology as a way to spark business innovation.” Ah, yes, millions and millions of green jobs. Where have we heard that before? Certainly no one wants dirty air. But there is a balance to be found between protecting the environment and nurturing the fragile economy. We have to be realistic about our growing need for energy and the tradeoffs we have to make. At a time when emerging technology is making coal cleaner and cleaner (just not quickly enough for the federal government, alas), insisting on impossible-to-meet environmental standards at the cost of everything else is nothing short of insane.

**WEST VIRGINIA PUBLIC RADIO**

WV Dems defend coal in front of EPA in Washington

The coal industry has traditionally opposed regulations by the Environmental Protection Agency. That conflict heightened recently after President Obama’s speech on the nation’s energy future, calling for stricter regulations on carbon emissions. This “War on Coal,” as it was identified by political leaders in Washington, was immediately criticized by lawmakers across West Virginia leading them to a sit down with newly appointed EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy. A small Democratic delegation made the trip to Washington, on their own dime, to bring a solid message to one of the newest members of President Obama’s staff. They say without coal, the nation currently has no reliable, affordable energy future. “It wasn't just people oh, we’re made and we’re upset with what you’re doing to us and poor us,” Manchin said. “The bottom line is poor this country if we’re not able to do the job that we do In West Virginia and do so well to provide reliable, dependable and affordable energy.” Sen. Joe Manchin was just one of the dozen or so lawmakers who sat down with McCarthy in Washington. After spending 45 minutes with the administrator, Democratic Party Chair Larry Puccio said he feels confident she took their message seriously. “When she made the statement she believes we need to hit the ‘reset button’ that allowed me to be encourage that she wants to start with us working very, very hard,” Puccio said after the meeting, “as long as well all know that we’re looking to be realistic, realistic in what happens in our coal industry.” House Speaker Tim Miley agreed. He said he sat next to McCarthy in the meeting as she took notes and asked questions during this, her first week on the job. “I detected a sincere willingness to look into our concerns, consider them and recognize the policies that they implement here in Washington have a very real and sometimes detrimental effect on the citizens that we represent back in West Virginia,” Miley said.

Funds for mine safety grant program sliced  
Sequestration cut federal funds for the Brookwood-Sago grant by more than half. The Brookwood-Sago Mine Safety Grant is meant for training and training materials for mine emergency preparedness and mine emergency prevention for underground mines. West Virginia's Democratic US representatives Jay Rockefeller, Joe Manchin and Nick Rahall made the announcement Wednesday. This year, the federal lawmakers announced that \$550,000 is available in for the program they year. There was more than \$1.25-million available last year. The funding comes from the U.S. Department of Labor's Mine Safety and Health Administration.he Brookwood-Sago Mine Safety Grants grew out of the MINER Act which Rockefeller and Rahall co-authored in the Senate and House respectively and which Congress passed in 2006. The MINER Act passed after several coal mine disasters including Sago in West Virginia. Thirteen-men were trapped underground, only one survived.he federal Mine Safety and Health Administration is taking applications for mine safety grants. The deadline to apply for the grants is August 31.

**ASSOCIATED PRESS (W. VA.)**

West Virginia Seeks "Reset" on Coal With EPA  
The new head of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was briefed Thursday by a West Virginia delegation about the impact the agency's new policies could have on the state's coal industry. The Obama administration is moving to limit carbon emissions from new power plants. Politicians and industry leaders who attended the 45-minute meeting said EPA administrator Gina McCarthy was receptive to their concerns. "And, I really think that we are going to have the opportunity to hit the reset button and begin a dialogue that hopefully encourages coal to be a part of the president's energy plan going forward," said Tim Miley, the Democratic speaker of the West Virginia House of Delegates. West Virginia is the third-largest energy producing state. Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin also attended the meeting. He maintains the EPA's policies are overzealous and have led to the closing of coalmines and power plants. But environmental groups back the direction the EPA is heading. "We've never been entirely satisfied with the EPA," said John McFerrin, secretary of the West Virginia Highlands Conservancy. "But we're more satisfied now than at some times in the past. And, they certainly do not need to be reined in." U.S. Senator Joe Manchin of West Virginia called the meeting a very respectful, direct and productive discussion about how the EPA's policies have hurt the coal industry. "If anything just trying to prohibit the use of the product we're depending on," he said. "That makes no sense whatsoever. And, I told them that the war on coal is not an optical illusion, it was real." Manchin said the delegation invited McCarthy, who is in her first week as administrator of the EPA, to come to West Virginia to see first hand the impact of the agency's decisions. McFerrin disagrees with how Manchin characterizes the situation. "By any meaningful definition, it isn't a war on coal," he said. "The proper way to look at it is, the dealings and industry that has gotten to do whatever it pleased for the last, oh, forever and if not getting to do everything that you want to do is your definition of war, then I suppose it is.

Antero plan aims to prevent gas well explosions  
To prevent another fatal blast in West Virginia, Antero Resources says it will more closely review the layout of equipment on drilling sites, consider taller storage tanks for flowback water and latch those tanks to ensure potentially explosive gases are contained. But the state Department of Environmental Protection deemed the company's two-page letter "incomplete" on Thursday and said the Doddridge County site will remain shut down "until Antero provides a response that satisfies the requirements outlined in the original order." Colorado-based Antero tells the state Office of Oil and Gas that it will also require workers to wear portable gas monitors on drilling sites, and it will consider installing fixed monitors at each of those locations, depending on risk assessments. The letter released by the DEP says the company is also looking at different configurations of storage tanks and venting systems, including flares to burn off accumulated gases. Only emergency relief lines will vent into the atmosphere, Antero says.

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# MARYLAND

**Your4State.com**  
**17th Century Sunken Ship Discovered in the Chesapeake Bay**

**CBS 13 (Baltimore, Md.) TV**  
**Black Duck Population Is Declining In The Chesapeake Bay**

**Southern Maryland Newspapers Online**  
**Opinion: Preparing for the water's rise**

**CUMBERLAND TIMES-NEWS**  
**Environmental groups, critical of coal export loans, file lawsuit**

At the same time the coal industry is fighting against what industry leaders say is a war on coal, several environmental groups have filed a lawsuit to fight multimillion dollar loan guarantees to export U.S. coal to foreign nations including Japan, South Korea, China and Italy. Much of that coal leaves the country through the Port of Baltimore. The suit was filed in a California federal court Wednesday by a coalition, including the Chesapeake Climate Action Network, Center for International Environmental Law, Friends of the Earth, Pacific Environment, Sierra Club and the West Virginia Highlands Conservancy. The group is represented by attorneys from Earthjustice. "Ex-Im Bank turned a blind eye to the toxic coal dust, heavy train traffic and disruptive noise that our members living near ports and railways experience on a daily basis," said Diana Dascalu-Joffe, senior general counsel at the Chesapeake Climate Action Network. "People on the front lines of the U.S. coal export boom deserve to know the risks and to have a say over whether their tax dollars finance it." The government-financed bank's support for sending coal overseas contradicts President Barack Obama's stated concerns about global warming, said Justin Guay, associate director of the International Climate and Energy Program at the Sierra Club. Air and water pollution from the increased exports should have been considered, the environmental groups' representatives said. The pollution impacts from the coal exports will be "devastating," Dascalu-Joffe said. A 1993 study in Virginia found that, on average, a pound of coal dust blows off each coal car per mile traveled, environmental leaders said.

# VIRGINIA

## **RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH**

Dolphin deaths peak in Va. coastal waters

Virginia is seeing a sharp increase in dolphin deaths in its coastal waters. Media reports say five beached dolphins were found on Thursday. In July alone, nearly four dozen dead dolphins were found. Typically, the Virginia Aquarium Stranding Response Team picks up six or seven in July. The mammals were found in Norfolk and on the Eastern Shore. The stranding team says the elevated numbers are reminiscent of the mass deaths that occurred in 1987. More than 750 carcasses washed ashore from New Jersey to Florida. A measles-like illness was later determined to be the cause. In Virginia this year, the response team has collected the remains of 87 dolphins. The team typically picks up around 60 dolphins in an entire year.

## **NORFOLK VIRGINIAN PILOT**

Rigell reprimed pump for Va. offshore drilling push

Fresh from his first visit to an oil drilling platform in the Gulf of Mexico, U.S. Rep. Scott Rigell vowed this week to redouble efforts to establish a drilling operation off Virginia's coast. The Virginia Beach Republican said after a two-day trip to Louisiana that he's "more excited" and has a "stronger resolve" to push for opening the coastal waters to petroleum production as a way to create well-paying jobs and diversify Hampton Roads' economy. Acknowledging that under the most optimistic scenario, no rig would be installed in Virginia waters for at least 10 years, Rigell said Gulf residents, oil rig workers and business executives have convinced him it's time to make a push. "You reap what you sow," said Rigell, who was taken by helicopter Monday to visit the Shell-operated Noble Jim Day platform south of New Orleans, more than 100 miles off the Louisiana coast. "With our good effort now, whether I'm in office or not... collectively as a region we'll prosper and we'll benefit." But not everyone is so enthusiastic. Major objections remain because of fears that an oil spill or rig explosion would harm the region's fragile ecosystem; the Navy's expressed opposition to drilling in areas needed for its operations; and the Obama administration's resistance to sharing federal drilling revenue with coastal states. Federal legislation has been introduced - backed by Rigell and Virginia's two U.S. senators, Mark Warner and Tim Kaine - that would allow the sale of oil and gas leases off the state's coast as long as the commonwealth gets a share of government royalties. The lawmakers argue that Virginia and other coastal states share some risk and should benefit from the profits. Several Gulf states already collect royalties. The House approved a measure in June that lifts a federal moratorium on oil and gas drilling off Virginia's shores and requires that coastal states share 37.5 percent of government revenue from drilling off their shores.

## **DEQ NEWS CLIPS**

Chesapeake warns about fly ash at vacant parcels

Plans for a low-income housing development are on hold and signs warning of fly ash contamination will be posted next week on three vacant parcels in South Norfolk as the city awaits a recommendation on how to fix the problem. City officials told residents at a sparsely attended meeting Wednesday that the toxic material, buried at the site in the early 1990s, poses no immediate threat to public health. City Manager James Baker said the meeting was called to alert residents after an environmental engineering consultant found evidence of soil erosion at the 3½-acre site in Campostella Square. Baker said the ground covering has been restored and "no trespassing" signs have been posted. He said development will not be permitted until the problem is resolved. The property is owned by the Chesapeake Redevelopment and Housing Authority. Baker said the housing authority has known about the fly ash since 1991, when it allowed a contractor to bury the substance in exchange for demolishing several buildings at the site to make way for a townhouse development. Fly ash is a powdery residue left over from the burning of coal for electricity. It can contain arsenic and other hazardous heavy metals. Baker said burying fly ash was common throughout the country at that time, and that its toxicity was not yet understood.

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# MISCELLANEOUS

## **BLOOMBERG**

**Ran yesterday's The Times-Tribune, Scranton, Pa. story: In Dimock, opponent neither surprised nor hopeful over EPA leak** -Aug. 01--DIMOCK TWP. -- Ray Kemble was neither surprised nor hopeful to hear that Environmental Protection Agency officials learned of the potential of methane contamination from drilling activity before declaring his well water safe to drink last year. He holds little faith in the federal agency that gave a clean bill of health to the murky, smelly water he says comes from his home's water well, directly across the street from Costello 1, a well developed by Cabot Oil & Gas Corp. A slideshow presented to regional EPA officials in early 2012 and recently leaked to news media suggested the possibility of drilling-related methane contamination of groundwater. In its analysis into Dimock water, EPA did not test for methane. Cabot officials say its drilling and fracking did not contaminate Dimock water and that methane and other contaminants naturally occur in the Dimock area. They also say the issue has been thoroughly investigated and that the company has been cleared.

China Fracking Quake-Prone Province Shows Zeal for Gas

Companies such as Royal Dutch Shell Plc (RDSA) and China National Petroleum Corp. are starting to drill for gas and oil in shale rock in Sichuan, the nation's most seismically active province, a process geologists say raises the risk of triggering quakes."For the Sichuan basin, earthquakes are a problem for shale gas and shale oil production because of the tectonic conditions," said Shu Jiang, a professor at the University of Utah's Energy & Geoscience Institute in Salt Lake City. "The siting of the wells could cause some artificial earthquakes." China's shale gas reserves may be almost double those of the U.S., where unlocking the commodity slashed energy costs, reduced imports and raised the prospect of energy independence. The U.S. shale boom may add as much as \$690 billion a year to GDP and create 1.7 million jobs by 2020, according to a study by McKinsey & Co. For China, emulating the U.S. would provide greater energy security and help curtail dependence on burning coal that blankets cities in smog. "Once they crack the code on shale, they'll want to push aggressively on it," said Neil Beveridge, an analyst at Sanford C. Bernstein & Co., referring to geological and regulatory issues surrounding development.

## **ECONOMIST**

Few businesspeople have done as much to change the world as George Mitchell



THE United States has of late been in a slough of despond. The mood is reflected in a spate of books with gloomy titles such as “That Used to Be Us” (Thomas Friedman and Michael Mandelbaum) and “Time to Start Thinking: America in the Age of Descent” (Edward Luce). For the first time in decades the majority of Americans think their children will be worse off than they are. Yankee can-do optimism is in danger of congealing into European nothing-can-be-done negativism. There are good reasons for this. The political system really is “even worse than it looks”, as another doom-laden book puts it. Middle-class living standards have stagnated. The Iraq war turned into a debacle. But the pessimists are ignoring a mighty force pushing in the opposite direction: America’s extraordinary capacity to reinvent itself. No other country produces as many world-changing new companies in such a variety of industries: not just in the new economy of computers and the internet but also in the old economy of shopping, manufacturing and energy. George Mitchell, who died on July 26th, was a one-man refutation of the declinist hypothesis. From the 1970s America’s energy industry reconciled itself to apparently inevitable decline. Analysts produced charts to show that its oil and gas were running out. The big oil firms globalised in order to survive. But Mr Mitchell was convinced that immense reserves trapped in shale rock deep beneath the surface could be freed. He spent decades perfecting techniques for unlocking them: injecting high-pressure fluids into the ground to fracture the rock and create pathways for the trapped oil and gas (fracking) and drilling down and then sideways to increase each well’s yield (horizontal drilling). The result was a revolution. In an interview with *The Economist* last year Mr Mitchell said he never had any doubt that fracking might turn the American energy market upside down. But even he was surprised by the speed of the change. Shale beds now produce more than a quarter of America’s natural gas, compared with just 1% in 2000. America is on the way to becoming a net gas exporter. Traditional petro-powers such as Saudi Arabia and Russia are losing bargaining strength.

***GRID***  
Beautifying the Community With Painted Rain Barrels

The Mt. Airy Art Garage (MAAG) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are partnering this summer to create and display art, build community and spread the message that small actions in stormwater management can make a big difference. The project included MAAG’s facilitation of a variety of groups from the community, with more than 50 participants ranging in age from 10-85 painting rain barrels. It is part of the City of Philadelphia’s Green City, Clean Waters project, which aims to strengthen and protect the city’s watersheds by managing stormwater with innovative and community-centric design. “We celebrate artists, bringing children and elders together to paint rain barrels, build community and use art to create a sustainable future,” says Linda Slodki, cofounder of MAAG. The rain barrel artists included students from Springside Chestnut Hill Academy, the Pennsylvania School for the Deaf and CW Henry School, as well as the Germantown High School Stained Glass Project and Homelink. The barrels will be on display at the EPA’s Public Information Center at 1650 Arch St. in Philadelphia through Sept 20, when they will be returned to the participating schools to be attached to downspouts and connected to a practical stormwater management infrastructure. Rain barrels painted in prior MAAG projects can already be seen at locations throughout Mt. Airy, including Lovett Library. For more information on the project visit [mtairyartgarage.org](http://mtairyartgarage.org).

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